

ClaimsWhat is claimed is:

1    1. A computer controlled user interactive display system  
2    with a graphical user interface comprising:  
3        means for storing a plurality of application  
4    programs;  
5        a plurality of displayed objects, each  
6    representative of one of said application programs;  
7        means enabling a user to interactively select any of  
8    said displayed objects to thereby run the application  
9    program represented by the object;  
10      means for tracking the rates of unrequested  
11    interruptions in the runs of each of said application  
12    programs; and  
13      means associated with each of said objects for  
14    displaying a visual indicator of the rate of unrequested  
15    interruption in the run of the application program  
16    represented by the object.

1    2. The computer controlled user interactive display  
2    system of claim 1 wherein said unrequested interruptions  
3    are closings in the runs of said application programs.

1    3. The computer controlled user interactive display  
2    system of claim 2 wherein said displayed objects are  
3    icons.

1    4. The computer controlled user interactive display  
2    system of claim 3 wherein said visual indicator comprises  
3    a set of colors, each color in the set indicating a rate  
4    level of said unrequested closing.

1 5. The computer controlled user interactive display  
2 system of claim 4 wherein said visual indicator of said  
3 color is in the form of a band around the icon.

1 6. The computer controlled user interactive display  
2 system of claim 4 wherein a plurality of the stored  
3 application programs represented by said icons are  
4 different versions of the same application program.

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1 7. In a computer controlled user interactive display  
2 system with a graphical user interface, a method for  
3 indicating the stability of application programs used in  
4 the system comprising:

5       storing a plurality of application programs;  
6       displaying a plurality of objects, each  
7 representative of one of said application programs;  
8       enabling a user to interactively select any of said  
9 displayed objects to thereby run the application program  
10 represented by the object;  
11      tracking the rates of unrequested interruptions in  
12 the running of each of said application programs; and  
13      displaying, in association with each of said  
14 objects, a visual indicator of the rate of unrequested  
15 interruption in the running of the application program  
16 represented by the object.

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said unrequested  
2 interruptions are closings in the runs of said  
3 application programs.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said displayed objects  
2 are icons.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said visual indicator  
2 comprises a set of colors, each color in the set  
3 indicating a rate level of said unrequested closing.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein said visual indicator  
2 of said color is in the form of a band around the icon.

1 12. The method of claim 10 wherein a plurality of the  
2 stored application programs represented by said icons are  
3 different versions of the same application program.

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1 13. A computer program having program code included on a  
2 computer readable medium for indicating the stability of  
3 an application program used in a computer controlled user  
4 interactive display system with a graphical user  
5 interface comprising:

6       means for storing a plurality of application  
7 programs;

8       a plurality of displayed objects, each  
9 representative of one of said application programs;

10      means enabling a user to interactively select any of  
11 said displayed objects to thereby run the application  
12 program represented by the object;

13      means for tracking the rates of unrequested  
14 interruptions in the runs of each of said application  
15 programs; and

16      means associated with each of said objects for  
17 displaying a visual indicator of the rate of unrequested  
18 interruption in the run of the application program  
19 represented by the object.

1 14. The computer program of claim 13 wherein said  
2 unrequested interruptions are closings in the runs of  
3 said application programs.

1 15. The computer program of claim 14 wherein said  
2 displayed objects are icons.

1 16. The computer program of claim 15 wherein said visual  
2 indicator comprises a set of colors, each color in the  
3 set indicating a rate level of said unrequested closing.

1 17. The computer program of claim 16 wherein said visual  
2 indicator of said color is in the form of a band around  
3 the icon.

1 18. The computer program of claim 16 wherein a plurality  
2 of the stored application programs represented by said  
3 icons are different versions of the same application  
4 program.

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